

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09

NEA-10 COME-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 TRSE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01

AGR-10 SSO-00 IOE-00 /092 W
----- 041038

O 281725Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8445

INFO USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS VIENNA 3464

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNIDO, UNGA, EIND, ECIN, EAID, PORG, ABUD

SUBJ: PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER ADVISER POSITIONS FROM REGULAR
PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO UNIDO SECTION UN
REGULAR BUDGET

REF: VIENNA 3243

1. DELEGATION WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT. GUIDANCE ON
FOLLOWING BY IMMEDIATE CABLE ON APRIL 28.

2. AFTERNOON APRIL 27 PHILIPPINE DEL (SIAZON)
PROPOSED IN PLENARY THAT IF NO MEMBER OBJECTED, INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT BOARD SHOULD PROPOSE TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT
SALARIES OF REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL ADVISERS BE REMOVED
FROM UN BUDGET SECTION FOR REGULAR PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL
ASSITANCE AND BE PLACED IN UN BUDGET SECTION FOR UNIDO.
USDEL WAS FIRST TO INTERPOSE OBJECTION STATING THAT IN
SPITE OF LOGIC OF PROPOSAL IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR HIM
TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS. DELS FROM UK, JAPAN, FRANCE AND USSR
FOLLOWED WITH SIMILAR STATEMENTS.

2. USDEL INQUIRED INGENUOUSLY OF PHILIPPINE DEL
WHETHER HIS PROPOSAL IMPLIED A REDUCTION IN THE
BUDGET FOR THE REGULAR PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL
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ASSISTANCE TO WHICH PHILIPPINE DEL REPLIED WITH

APPROPRIATELY THEATRICAL FERVOR ALBEIT A NON SEQUITUR THAT, ON THE CONTRARY, THE REGULAR PROGRAM SHOULD BE INCREASED.

4. PHILIPPINE DEL BUTTRESSED HIS ARGUMENT THAT THE REGIONAL ADVISERS ARE INDISPENSABLE COORDINATION LINKAGES BETWEEN UNIDO AND THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS AND HEADQUARTERS AND ALSO REFERRED TO A DATUM PROVIDED TO THE IDB EARLIER IN THE DAY BE THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS DIVISION VELIKY) IN REPLY TO AN FRG QUERY. VELIKY HAD STATED THAT INTER-REGIONAL ADVISERS SPEND ONLY 90 DAYS PER YEAR AWAY FROM VIENNA HEADQUARTERS.

5. DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE THAT FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS ARE APPROXIMATELY \$800,000 COMPRISING COSTS OF 17 ADVISERS (PARA 2 REFTEL AND PAR 21, PAGE 158 OF ANNUAL REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 1975, ID/B/160) AT AN AVERAGE COST OF \$48,000 (APPENDIX H OF ANNUAL REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 1975). GIVEN DESCRIPTIONS OF ADVISER'S FUNCTIONS (PARA 22, PAGE 158, ANNUAL REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR) INCREASE IN UNIDO BUDGET WOULD BE LARGELY PERSONNEL COST INCREASES WITHIN OPERATIONS DIVISION.

6. THE PROBABLE REASON WHY REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL ADVISERS WERE INCLUDED IN THE REGULAR PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FIRST PLACE WAS TO INCREASE FLEXIBILITY OF APPOINTMENTS. TO SHIFT THE BASIS OF FINANCING THEM HAS ADVANTAGE PERHAPS OF DISCOURAGING SUCH PRACTICES AS NEPOTISM BUT ON THE OTHER HAND WILL PREVENT APPOINTMENT OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL WHO ARE BEYOND RETIREMENT AGE.

7. DELEGATION SEES SOME LOGIC IN PROPOSAL THAT ALL SLAARIES OF STAFF, WHITHER BASED AT HEADQUARTERS OR IN REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, BE COVERED FROM UNIDO SECTION OF UN BUDGET, PROVIDED THAT AMOUNT TO BE APPROPRIATED FOR REGULAR PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS REDUCED BY THE SAME AMOUNT AS THE RESULTANT INCREASE IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNIDO SECTION OF THE REGULAR UN BUDGET. THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE (VIZ. - SIAZON'S COMMENT ABOUT NEED TO INCREASE LEVEL OF REGULAR PROGRAM.) AND IT MAY BE SAFER TO ARGUE THAT MATTERS BE LEFT AS THEY STAND IN INTERVAL WHEN NEGOTIATIONS TO ESTABLISH UNIDO AS SPECIALIZED AGENCY ARE UNDERWAY. AS DEPT. IS AWARE, REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL ADVISERS HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN REGARDED AS MORE IN THE NATURE

OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE EXPERTS THAT HEADQUARTERS
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AND AGREEMENT TO FUND THEM
FROM THE UNIDO REGULAR BUDGET MAY BE UNWISE AT
A TIME WHEN WE ARE ENGAGED IN DIFFICULT
NEGOTIATIONS IN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE
ON THE QUESTION OF COSTS TO BE COVERED FROM UNIDO'S
REGULAR BUDGET.

8. QUESTION HAS JUST BEEN DISCUSSED BY GROUP B
WHICH IS UNANIMOUSLY OF THE VIEW THAT THE MATTER,
IF POSSIBLE, SHOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL IDB-XI. STIBRAVY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FUND ALLOTMENT, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976VIENNA03464
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760161-0768
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760412/aaaaajvr.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 VIENNA 3243
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <31 JAN 2005 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER ADVISER POSITIONS FROM REGULAR PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO UNIDO SECTION UN
TAGS: EIND, ECIN, EAID, PORO, ABUD, UNIDO, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006